

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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BRUSASCO WANTS THE JOB



George Best wearing Brisbane Lions' colours in Sydney's NSL match against Sydney Olympic.

BY GREG RUSSELL

QUEENSLAND Soccer Federation president Ald. Ian Brusasco wants the national presidency.

Ald Brusasco told a Queensland Press Club luncheon: "If Sir Arthur (George) chose to stand down — and that could happen in the very near future — my name would go up as a candidate."

Brusasco said he would never stand against Australian Soccer's Supremo but added: "He's 68 or 69 or even older and he may be thinking of retiring. If that happens I am available to take his place."

Although Brusasco would not elaborate on when he thought Sir Arthur would retire, he gave the indication that it would be at the all-important ASF executive meeting on July 30.

It is at that meeting that the ASF must decide whether to adopt or reject the NSL 1984 proposals and some pundits are predicting that decision has the potential to blow Australian Soccer wide open.

Sir Arthur, who is holidaying in Zurich, has weathered storms before, but this time, if the views of some Queensland club officials are any indication, the knives are well and truly out.

Brusasco, an ASF ex-

ecutive member for 23 years, no doubt is aware of that but if he was on the campaign trail last week his statements certainly wouldn't have endeared him to the two Queensland NSL clubs which both had sizeable representations at the luncheon.

Brusasco told the luncheon that the National League had been a failure.

"If you are honest and examine the National League you must admit it hasn't worked," Brusasco said.

"It has produced better players and the standard of football has improved but it has not attracted the public. Let's face it, entertainment and the public is what we're all about."

Brusasco offered American style changes to the rules as his solution to the "Boring nil all and 1-0 results the Soccer public are tired of watching".

He suggested the off-side rule be abolished and goalkeepers be deleted to enable Soccer to compete with its more high-scoring rivals.

"We need more scoring. So what if they have to pick the ball out of the net 35 times. An 18-17 results is better than 1-0. That way the crowd will cheer 35 times instead of once," he said.

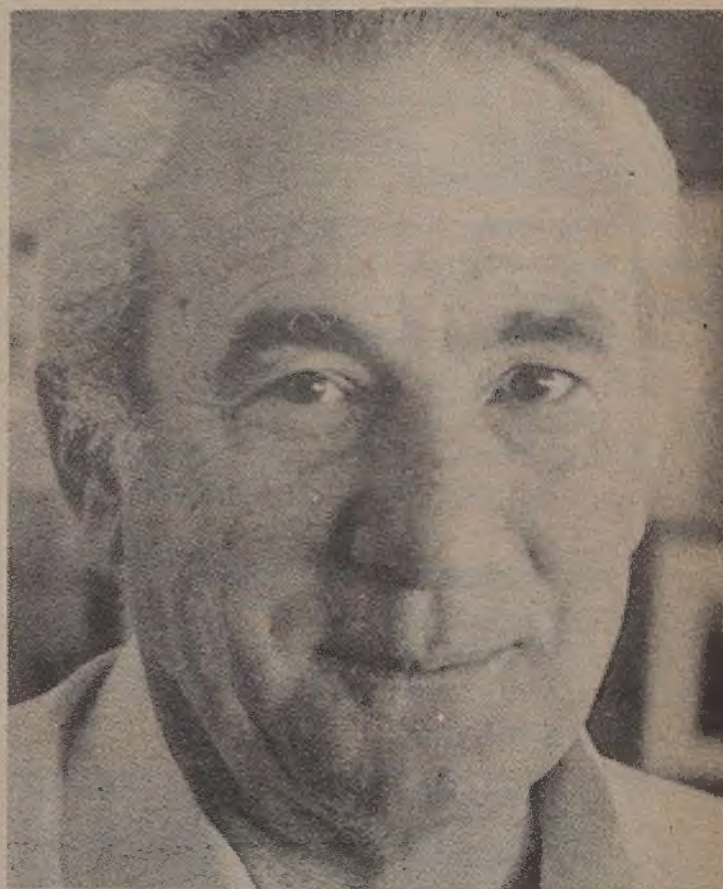
- ☐ **INSIDE ASW**
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- ☐ **PATIKAS IS STRONGER**
- ☐ **GREEKS ARE BANNED**
- ☐ **SPURS LOSING HODDLE?**

Due to a mechanical breakdown at our printing plant, today's AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY had to go to press without several regular features.

We apologise for the absence of NSL match reports and various State League items, which caused this week's issue to be reduced from the normal 20 pages to the same size as our competitors.

Next week, your ASW will be back to normal with a bumper edition to compensate for this week's problems.

— THE EDITOR.



Brusasco ... aspirations to be Soccer boss.

"The purists will hate me, but the purists hate one-day cricket. It's a contrived thing but it's a boom success."

Brusasco qualified his suggestions later by say-

ing after 23 years in the game, he realised such changes would be difficult to implement but claimed he had made the outburst in an attempt to get people thinking.

EDITORIAL

SURELY Ian Brusasco, president of the Queensland Soccer Federation, was kidding!

Brusasco, a few days ago, came out with one of the most ridiculous statements ever made by a responsible Soccer official.

If he was reported correctly, the Queensland VIP, suggested Soccer should dispense with goalkeepers and also abandon the offside law.

He visualised this as a remedy for the sport's present ailment of not enough goals.

It certainly would be the remedy. But it would not help the game much if we created another huge headache in an effort to cure a minor problem.

You may be sure the absence of goalkeepers and offside would produce utter and complete chaos.

People who muck about with the laws of the game do Soccer a disservice: when leading administrators advocate revolutionary changes in the laws, they invite ridicule.

There is a parallel between the Brusasco plan and the way Soccer is handled in the United States of America.

There is much heartburn and anguish in the USA right now about the failure of that country's bid to host the 1986 World Cup.

Mexico was given the honour of staging the world's greatest sporting event and the USA was given an unkind brush-off.

We do not suggest the FIFA, rulers of world Soccer, had an ulterior motive for kicking out America's World Cup bid. But it is a fact that FIFA has been very angry for several years about the way its rules have been bent for local consumption in the USA.

The Yanks changed the offside law. They also "banned" drawn games by inventing the shoot-out which ensured a win or a loss.

FIFA warned the North American Soccer League to "get into line with the rest of the world or risk being expelled".

A reader's letter to the New York Times recently put forward the theory that the USA's application to stage the 1986 World Cup was thrown out because the NASL could not be trusted to stop tampering with the laws of the game.

This reader stated: "The NASL has repeatedly tried to change FIFA rules to 'Americanise' the game. And in the United States, scholastic and collegiate Soccer are NOT played under FIFA rules."

Did this have anything to do with FIFA's arrogant rejection of the USA's 1986 application?

Getting back to Ian Brusasco's rather weird suggestion to bring more goals into Soccer, we must accept that those ideas were made tongue-in-cheek.

ASW knows Brusasco well. He is a man with a sense of humour, as he needs to be after so many years on the Australian Soccer Federation's executive committee.

No goalkeepers? No offside? Such suggestions inspired a few giggles.

Now let's get back to the serious business of playing Soccer under the universally accepted laws of the game.

WOLLONGONG CITY
Vs
SYDNEY OLYMPIC

ST GEORGE STADIUM • ROCKDALE

JULY 6, WEDNESDAY NIGHT

KICK-OFF - 8PM

YOUTH LEAGUE - 6PM



Two old mates meet, 'Parkie' and 'Best'

BEST OF GEORGE AT THE AIRPORT

By David Jack

PROBABLY no player in Soccer history has had such a stormy career as George Best. The Irish international and former Manchester United wizard has never been more than one step away from controversy, anguish, bitterness, and, even, scorn.

Yet when Best arrived at Sydney's Kingsford Smith Airport a few days ago, you would never have imagined this was the man so often written off as a no-good has-been by the media all over the world.

Despite the wearisome journey — something like 30 hours in the care of Malaysian Airline System — George looked fit and well and could not have been more friendly or accommodating when I spoke to him.

I feared his reaction when hit by the sort of curly questions he was bound to be asked at the Airport Press Conference. . . questions which had nothing to do with football.

You know the sort of thing — how much do you drink, or how is Miss World getting on, or have you been involved in trouble recently?

Such questions did come. And each was answered politely by an alleged hell-raiser who looked as if butter wouldn't melt in his mouth.

Michael Parkinson, who had made a special journey to the Airport to welcome his old friend Best, even joined in this chat show.

When Best was asked how he managed to form so many attachments with many beautiful girls, "Parkie" chipped in with: "He just sits there and waits for them. He gets more than his share!"

That set the tone for an enjoyable and light-hearted Press Conference but when the touchy subject of alcohol was introduced, George Best spoke more seriously and with great sincerity

"People say I have a drink problem. That's not true. I'm an alcoholic. I have a disease. Millions of people all over the world suffer from it. At one time, when you admitted to being an alcoholic, people shied away from you. It was like being a leper. Some of them should look at themselves in the mirror.

"I am not a drunkard. I am an alcoholic but I haven't had a drop for the past six months."

George Best was asked some frank questions about his present form and fitness and he surprised everyone with his answers.

"I honestly believe my skills will never vanish. Maybe the pace has gone a bit but I train regularly (on my own) and I've played 50 or 60 matches in the past year. I've had two or three bad games — that's all. I hope to prove with Brisbane Lions that I can still send the spectators home feeling happy."

Round about this time, another old friend invaded the Airport interview room to bid a welcome to George Best. It was Tommy Docherty.

The Doc had a ready-made greeting for the player who caused him so many headaches at Manchester United. "That's another bet I've lost on you — you've turned up!"

When it was pointed out to Best and Docherty that they would be on opposite sides in Best's first game for Brisbane Lions against Sydney Olympic, The Doc commented: "We were on opposite sides at Old Trafford as well!"

He wasn't too serious about that, because both men have enormous respect for each other. They even posed for pictures sipping cups of Sydney Airport tea.

I had the feeling that Tommy Docherty was delighted to see his old sparring partner arriving in Australia. Maybe he's even envious of Brisbane Lions for having the initiative to spend big on one of the biggest names in the game. But with The Doc's experience of trying to handle the wayward genius, maybe not.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY says "welcome to George Best." If his very first Press Conference on Australian soil is anything to go by, this outstanding footballer is going to make quite an impact on the game here in the next few weeks.

I honestly believe
my skills will
never vanish
— BEST



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NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

SYDNEY CITY 2 (Kosmina, De Marigny) d HEIDELBERG 0 at Sydney Athletic Field. Crowd: 1023.
ST GEORGE 2 (Marton, Xanthopoulos) d SOUTH MELBOURNE 0 at Middle Park. Crowd: 2000.
WEST ADELAIDE 1 (Aizalas) drew with WOLLONGONG 1 (Cotton) at Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 900.
PRESTON 4 (Odzakovic, Illoski, Ollerton, Lucchesi) d BRISBANE CITY 0 at Conner Reserve. Crowd: 2500.
LEICHHARDT 3 (Morsello, Bradley, Bertogna) d NEWCASTLE 2 (Burke, Mason) at Lambert Park. Crowd: 900.
CANBERRA 1 (Bryant) d FOOTSCRAY 0 at Bruce Stadium. Crowd: 1450.
MARCONI 3 (Sermanni, Licata, Brown) d ADELAIDE CITY 2 (Mella, Mullen) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 2700.
BRISBANE LIONS 2 (Niven, Daunt) d SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Katholos) at Perry Park. Crowd: 3000.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Preston	9	4	1	28	11	31
Syd C	7	4	4	20	16	25
N'castle	7	4	4	24	13	24
St Geo	7	4	4	13	8	22
C'berra	6	2	6	23	17	20
L'hardt	6	2	6	21	18	20
Marconi	6	2	6	23	22	20
Bris C	6	2	6	19	24	20
W Adel	5	4	4	14	15	19
Olympic	5	3	4	17	12	18
H'berg	4	6	4	12	13	18
Adel C	5	3	4	17	21	18
S Melb	4	3	7	15	22	15
Lions	4	1	8	19	28	13
W'gong	1	8	8	18	24	11
F'cray	2	4	8	8	27	10

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

Sydney City 2 d AIS 1, Newcastle 3 d Leichhardt 0, St George 2 d Canberra 0, Marconi 2 d Olympic 0.
STANDINGS: Sydney City 26, Marconi 21, Olympic 20, Newcastle 19, Canberra 19, AIS 18, St George 17, Wollongong 7, Leichhardt 6.

NSW STATE LEAGUE

Ku-ring-gai 0 d Sutherland 1, Bankstown 0 drew with Polonia 0, Canterbury 0 drew with Yugal 0, Monaro 3 d Auburn 0, Manly 2 drew with Avala 2, Melita 1 d Blacktown 0.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Melita	10	2	1	28	9	22
Croftia	9	4	1	27	7	21
Black	9	4	1	27	13	18
Kur	9	4	1	16	12	16
Avala	5	6	4	19	16	16
Monaro	5	4	4	22	18	14
Suth	6	2	4	17	13	14
Manly	3	5	5	22	23	14
Polonia	3	5	5	18	24	11
Yugal	3	5	5	13	20	11
Can	4	2	5	19	30	10
Banks	2	1	10	17	37	7
Auburn	1	1	11	12	35	2

SECOND GRADE

Bankstown 6 d Polonia 0, Canterbury 4 d Yugal 1, Monaro 1 d Auburn 0, Manly 2 d Avala 1, Blacktown 2 drew with Melita 2.

THIRD GRADE

Bankstown 3 d Polonia 1, Canterbury 1 drew with Yugal 1, Manly 1 drew with Avala 1, Blacktown 1 drew with Melita 1.

DIVISION TWO

Dee Why 1 Parramatta 1, Revesby 0 Penrith U 0, Balmora 0 Artarmon 4.

DIVISION THREE

Bondi 0 Queens Pk 1, Bathurst 2 Campbelltown 0, Baulkham Hills 1 Liverpool 1.

DIVISION FOUR

Spanish Club 0 Maroubra 1, Concordia 2 Sydney U 2.

RESULTS, OR THE SACK!

FROM MYLES HAY

ONLY twelve months have elapsed since the start of the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain and the mortality rate among managers clearly shows what a shaky role this is.

Here are the details of what has happened to those men who held the lofty position as Manager of their country's representative teams:

ALGERIA: Rachid Mekloufi was sacked after the finals, despite the team's good performances.

ARGENTINA: Cesar Luis Menotti left to join Barcelona.

AUSTRIA: Felix Latzka failed to survive and has been replaced by Erich Hoff.

BELGIUM: Guy Thys has now held the position for six years.

KUWAIT: Brazilian Carlos Alberto returned to his homeland and has been replaced by countryman Mario Zagalo.

NEW ZEALAND: Englishman John Adshead is no longer in charge.

NORTHERN IRELAND: Billy Bingham is still the top man.

PERU: 71 year old Pim Elba de Padua Lima was axed.

POLAND: Antoni Piechniczek was keen to resign but was ordered to stay on as manager.

SCOTLAND: Jock Stein is still in control though criticism is mounting over some recent indifferent performances.

SPAIN: Jose Santamaria has been replaced by former Real Madrid player Miguel Monoz.

ITALY: Enzo Bearzot is still there but his future is clouded.

FRANCE: Now serving his ninth year is Michel Hidalgo.

U.S.S.R.: Former Moscow Dynamo striker Konstantin Beskov failed and has been replaced by Valerij Lobanowski.

WEST GERMANY: Jupp Derwall still holds the reins.

YUGOSLAVIA: Miljan Miljanovic was sacked and the position taken by Podor Veselinovic.

BRAZIL: Failure in Spain cost Tele Santana his position and Kuwait's manager Carlos Alberto has taken over.

CAMEROON: Former French World Cup player Jean Vincente has gone.

CHILE: Luis Santibanez, after five years in the post, was dismissed.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Josef Venglos, well known in Australia, was axed and his place taken by Josef Hravaneck.

EL SALVADOR: The man in charge is still Maruicio Rodrigues.

ENGLAND: Ron Greenwood was always going to retire after Spain, and Bobby Robson took over.

HONDURUS: Chelada Herrera did not last long after his return from Spain.

HUNGARY: Although Kalman Meszoly survived a disappointing World Cup, he was dismissed after a poor showing in the European Championship.

ONLY EIGHT MANAGERS REMAIN OUT OF TWENTY FOUR — hardly the most secure job in the world!

DO HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY

SOUTHEND United manager Dave Smith was on holiday in Tenerife when he received a phone call.

It came from Southend's new directors, who took control of the club last week. They told Smith he would be out of a job when he returned from holiday!

Hardly the best news to help a man enjoy his holiday.



Billy Bingham (Northern Ireland): in



Cesar Menotti: (Argentina): left



Enzo Bearzot (Italy): dicey

ARROWS FAIL TO CATCH FRANK FARINA

By STEVE BURNS

CANBERRA ARROWS have failed to secure the services of crack young World Youth Championship striker Frank Farina from the Australian Institute of Sport.



Frank Farina

Senior AIS Soccer coach Jimmy Shoulder has imposed the "ban" until a suitable replacement for Farina is found.

The ban is a sad blow for Arrows' new coach Atti Abonyi who, like his predecessor George Murray, rates Farina highly.

And the Arrows' Board of Directors share that view — particularly president, Charlie Perkins.

Like many other Board members, he believed Farina was one of the answers to Canberra's problems in attack — although those problems have lessened with the return from lengthy injury of Tony Brennan.

Shoulder said with the AIS squad being thin, he had to first obtain a replacement for Farina before he could legitimately

condone any loan, or other arrangement.

"The matter is further complicated because any loan has to be first accepted by Farina's former Queensland club Maréba," Shoulder said.

"Formal acceptance would have to come through the Queensland Soccer Federation."

Shoulder admitted that there had been talk of Canberra's free-scoring Youth League striker, 16-years-old Manis Lamond being offered in exchange for Farina.

Shoulder said that this would be an acceptable exchange.

The Canberra board is still considering that possibility as Lamond is now the Youth League's top scorer and could be ready for his NSW debut early next season — perhaps even before.

"We are lucky in that we are not restricting our search for a replacement for Farina within the national capital," Shoulder said.

"That search is being conducted nationally."

and City do not quit the National League they will not be allowed to field any teams in the State Leagues.

This would mean only one team having to step aside in 1984.

SUPER LEAGUE LEAKS

BY TOM MCKAIN

THERE is a new "leak" on the SA Federation's plans for "super leagues" in 1984.

Word is there will be three eight-team leagues as against the present 10 First Division, 12 Second and 12 Metropolitan.

While it looks good at first glance, it is a plan which is certain to bring an outcry from the smaller clubs.

Those who have just made the Second Division, and are still consolidating, would find themselves back in the lowest competition.

Some clubs which have become household names

in the First Division, although not always starting teams, could be plunged back into Second Division.

On the current listings West, Azzurri, Beograd, Para Hills, Croatia, Polonia, Birkalla and Campbelltown are the top eight.

Under the new set-up Elizabeth and Port would bow out.

However, there is also a strong tip that if West

WATSON'S



CROSSES

NOW that the dust has settled and England have departed I find it very satisfying to hear the many complimentary remarks regarding Australia's performance in the three games.

Obviously the public has paid no notice whatsoever to the newspaper articles which have tried to convince them otherwise.

After Australia's disastrous results against New Zealand, this team obtained self-respect.

Now, hopefully, the next Soccerroo squad can keep the momentum going and produce even better results.

One thing the public didn't see during the England tour was the tremendous team spirit in the Australian camp.

I heard many of our players say that this was the highest team spirit they had known in a Soccerroo camp and all credit must go to Frank Arok for achieving this.

It is this kind of team spirit that national coach Les Scheinflug must keep up if Australia is to be successful in future internationals.

At Sydney City we have always had a great team spirit. It is one the main reasons for our success. Ask Eddie Thomson.

It's a great pity to see Ron Greenwood leave our shores as this man did Soccer proud wherever he appeared in Australia.

His knowledge and simple understanding of the game is tremendous.

Several times I chatted to Ron about the game and each time he overwhelmed me with ability to make it all sound so simple.

I'm sure he has left an everlasting impression with all he has had contact with in Australia, and I'm sure everyone concerned is a little bit wiser.

Now that the NSL is back in full swing once again, I hope this time it is allowed to continue without any interruptions. From now on continuity of the league is essential if our diminishing support is to be lured back to the games.

Without a strong National League the game won't prosper here no matter how good our representative teams perform.

N.S.W. SOCCER FEDERATION

presents

TOP ACTION SOCCER

DIVISION 1

Saturday July 9

Auburn v Manly Warringah Mona Park
Sunday July 10

S.S.C. Yugal v Bankstown Fraser Park
Melita Eagles v Cent-M'ville Oly Melita Stadium
Croatia Sydney v Ku-ring-gai King Tomislav Park
Sutherland Shire v Inter-Monaro Seymour Shaw Park
Avala v Blacktown City Knight Park

DIVISION 2

Saturday July 9

North Bankstown v Fairy Meadow Potts Park
Penrith United v Uni of NSW Cook Park
Wollongong United v Rockdale Berkeley Sports Grd.

Sunday July 10

Dee Why v Revesby Workers Graham Reserve
Blacktown United v Parramatta City Francis Park
Gladesville Ravens v Artarmon Peel Park
Belmore v Warringah N'been Blick Oval

BRISBANE LIONS striker Calvin Daunt, the player who scored Lions winning goal in the 1981 Cup Final, wants to leave the club.

Daunt wants to join his goalkeeping brother Geoff at Greek-supported club Olympic.

Olympic have told Daunt they have over-spent on their budget this year and cannot afford to buy the striker but Lions have refused to let the former Australian Youth squad member go on loan.

Daunt has been a valuable player for Lions, having been used as not only striker, but stopper, sweeper and even goal-keeper.

Daunt said work commitments were preventing him from giving as much time to football as in the past and if he is unable to go to Olympic this year, the club has given an undertaking to buy him next season.



Nick PAPALLO

WHEN Ashfield Council told Leichhardt they could not play any more NSL games at Pratten Park, it might have been a blessing in disguise.

Although it meant Leichhardt had to return to their dilapidated home at Lambert Park, it did

WOLLONGONG City fans can't complain about boring scoreless draws.

In three seasons Wollongong have been involved in only two games where no goals were scored.

During their first season they finished scoreless against Newcastle and in their last home game it was nil-all against St George.

There were no goals and there was a howling gale but the St George game was still entertaining.

Radio 2WL have Paul Posetti at Wollongong home games sending through progress scores but the station announcer stunned him during the St George game.

After Posetti said through his two-way system there was no score the announcer's voice came back "How do I say that; is it nil-nil or nought-nought?"



Raskopoulos



Phillips,

SYDNEY CITY enthusiast Bill Kadison claims his team has the youngest and best midfield in the NSL.

Kadison makes the claim on behalf of Jean Paul de Marigny, Geraldo Gomez and Paul Kay. They're 19, 21 and 20.

Maybe Sydney Olympic would like to challenge the claim. Their trio of midfielders, Gary Phillips, Peter Raskopoulos, and Jim Patikas is probably even better... and just as young.

You could add Peter Katholos, too, although he is having a go in the front line.

NEXT Monday night Wollongong City foundation members and supporters will get together to discuss the club's financial problems.

After the recent decision by players to keep going indefinitely without wages chairman Laurie Kelly has called the meeting to see what can be done to balance the books.

"We won't be asking people to fork out money at this meeting; we just want to talk about what we can do to make sure the club keeps going," Kelly said.

"I call on anyone interested in keeping top Soccer in Wollongong to turn up at the meeting."

The meeting is at Corrimall Leagues Club and will start at 7.30pm.

ADELAIDE City's coffers will swell on July 14 when it auctions its Home of the 80s at West Lakes Delfin Island.

The house was built with the help of committee and club members, and generous backers,

and is the last word in luxury.

It has been open for inspection midweek and Sundays.

WHEN George Best arrived in Australia last week, his current girl friend, former "Miss World" Mary Stavin, did not travel with him, although it was expected she would make the trip.

George explained: "Mary had to go to Dublin for a couple of days on promotional work for the



Mary Stavin

James Bond movie Octopussy.

Then she flies to South America but I'm hoping to meet up with her on the journey home."

Mary Stavin has a role in the Bond movie.



DAVID Jones, Newcastle's popular flanker became a naturalised Australian a few weeks ago.

His team-mates jokingly reckon that he is trying to stay in the good books of coach Ken Kaiser, born and bred in the Newcastle area.

But Jones still swears allegiance to Manchester City despite City's step down to the English second division next season.

PETER DUNNE (29), a former player with Everton, Falkirk and Miami, has moved to Sydney from Mackay and is keen to get involved in coaching.

Dunne has an English F.A. coaching badge and has coached teams in England, Norway, USA and Queensland.

Interested clubs can contact him on 758 1449.

NEIL McGachey, West Adelaide captain and sweeper, could be heading for the operation table.

He is waiting on a specialists report on a swollen knee suffered during training.

CANBERRA ARROWS gained a new member to its junior cheer squads recently — young bouncing Nicole Ontong, daughter of Paul and Shennette Ontong. Nicole can now join the lusty offspring of the Byrnes — Terry and Carol — at Canberra's home games.

A TOUR of Singapore, at the end of the season, is being part-financed by West Adelaide players.

Coach Alan Vest says he is hoping to have Singapore backers putting up the balance, and games will also be played in Malaysia or Indonesia.

READERS FORUM

In this spot every week, we shall publish extracts from readers' letters — good or bad! If you want your opinions aired, please keep letters and postcards short and to the point. Write to The Editor, Australian Soccer Weekly, 261 Broadway, NSW 2007.

TV TOM

HAVING listened to Tom Anderson on TV and then reading his comments in the Monday edition of the Daily Mirror, I came to the conclusion that this great game of Soccer will never succeed in this country. As soon as some sort of success is achieved there will be immediately an expert who will do his utmost to convince the Australian public that the success was really a disaster.

What made me write to you in this matter: could you tell me the reason for Mr. Anderson's bias, or any reason why he would knock Soccer? Also, he mentions only three names in the English team, as it seems to me he never heard of Lee, Cowans, Butcher, Barnes, Walsh and Blissett. Do we have any player of this calibre?

On my behalf and many friends, congratulations Socceroos for great results.

A. Price
Bondi

SOCCER A MESS

AUSTRALIAN Soccer is in a mess. The Youth team failed in Mexico and the Socceroos refused to create anything against England here. On top of this, the National League doesn't know where it is going. How can you have a National League which is regional? Only Soccer could have a national thing in regions.

The time has come for a clean sweep of the people running the sport. Get rid of the ASF and State officials who have taken a wonderful sport down to the depths. Let us have new faces and younger men. And why hasn't Sir Arthur George groomed someone as his successor?

Jim Hargreaves,
Eliabeth, S.A.

LET'S PLAY!

I WOULD like to add my comments to the statements made by Joe Watson in his column (June 21, 1983).

He may have gained satisfaction from the games against England but I am certain that very few of the spectators were entertained.

His concern that there were so many empty seats may be understandable but if he had been a spectator at the Sydney game he would know why.

It certainly is a pity that the NSL cannot attract crowds like those at the international match. A large number of these spectators probably will not come to see another game of Soccer.

I will not waste my time or money going to Sydney again to watch the Socceroos.

These complaints will not stop me reading about Soccer in your paper. I have been a regular reader since the first edition and do not intend to change now.

D. Woodward
New Lambton, 2305.

EMPTY TERRACES

AFTER having read the statements made by Mr Peter Thorne, secretary of the Blacktown City Soccer club, I travelled to the Gabbie Stadium to see what a leading district club in the NSW State League could offer

This great (?) district club was playing another huge district club, Manly to empty terraces. Blacktown could hardly attract 300 people for this great meeting of the biggest district clubs in NSW.

Before we can promote district clubs at the expense of other clubs attracting crowds (Sydney Olympic vs Leichhardt over 6500 at Pratten Park on Sunday 26-6-83) let us remember what is happening to district clubs like Canberra City, Wollongong City and Newcastle.

It is the people (mostly English) who have for years waged a vindictive war against the migrant based clubs that have ruined Soccer in this country. Prague were the might of Australian Soccer attracting 20,000 people; look what happened to them since they Australianised.

The malady in Australian Soccer is the few administrators who are devious and want to survive on the backs of other more prosperous clubs instead of rolling up their sleeves.

When Blacktown City were in the Philips League, and what a mess they made then, they used to degrade the "ethnics" by using radio advertisements loaded with racist comments.

"Come and see the Australians thrash the Greeks," and such, but even this lowest form of propaganda didn't work.

Mario Venturi,
Fairfield.

PLENTY of people tried to stop the clubs forming the National Youth League, now operating successfully in NSW.

Looking back on that struggle, former Sydney City Soccer boss Frank Lowy, says: "The Youth League has been the perfect competition to bring on all the young talent now representing Australia. It's a pity the Victorians did not follow our lead and have a similar Youth League."

Frank Lowy, unfortunately, now has nothing to do with the Soccer at Sydney City but he remains president of the excellent Hakoah club at Bondi.

THE recent cold snap has Newcastle KB United guest player Mick Chan-

CANBERRA MOTHER HEN



One club which goes out of its way to strengthen the link with the local junior players is Canberra Arrows. Here is a picture of all the senior players taken at the national sports centre along with a group of keen ACT youngsters.



CAPTAIN SOCCEROO

WITH JOHNNY WARREN

KNOBBIES FORGE AHEAD IN CUPS

KINGSGROVE North is one school which has been predominantly rugby League — but this year the trend has changed. The Turner Cup Soccer team went through to the third round of the competition but unfortunately was knocked out following a penalty shootout.

The Commonwealth Bank Cup side fought their way through to the fourth round but were beaten by the crack Kogarah side.

Despite these results the platform is there for future success.

In the first round of the Turner Cup 'Knobbies' convincingly defeated Belmore 12-0. Players to dominate were goalkeeper Fred Saaty, despite the scoreline, Chris Kontis bagged two goals, while his younger brother Con, 13, starred with three goals.

The second game against Punchbowl was a closer affair with Nico Jenaris, who scored a goal, and Stuart Lang starring. George Daskalopoulos sealed the game with his match winning goal.

Their successful streak ended against Narwee.

The first crushing blow came days before the game. Talented sportsman Chris Contis,

who also represented the school in the Commonwealth Bank competition and Commonwealth Cup rugby league competition, broke his leg playing in the latter competition.

Nico Jenaris put the home team ahead early after he scored from the penalty spot.

Kingsgrove North held onto their slender lead until the last 10 minutes when Narwee scored from a corner.

In the penalty shoot-out Narwee ran out victors 3-2. Coach David Clark was disappointed, not for himself but for the players and the school in general.

Clark said: "Not going into extra-time was unfair for the boys when you consider that every game is played outside school hours."

He continued: "Despite the setback a lot of the boys will be available next year and I am sure we will go even further in the competition."

The senior Soccer team

were bundled out of their respective competition in the fourth round. In the first game the side were pitted against arch-rivals Kingsgrove. John Kero, a permanent second grade player with the strong NSW State League side Croatia, scored the winning goal.

In the second round Kingsgrove North overcame the power of Narwee, a side that consistently rates highly in this competition, to win on a penalty shoot-out.

At the end of extra time both teams were locked at 3-3 with Joe Severi scoring a magic hat-trick. In the ensuing shoot-out Kingsgrove North stood firm, winning 5-4.

Round three was played against the bustling Engadine side. John Kero was successful once again when he produced the winning goal.

Goalkeeper John Moreno, who plays Third grade for Avala, performed brilliantly

The fourth round saw the successful streak come to an end. Kingsgrove North were faced against Kogarah. A team that proudly includes the brilliant young 16 year old Peter Petkovski, who currently plays first grade in the National Soccer League with St George.

Kogarah hit the lead early into the game but 'Knobbies' responded with some skilful forward raids and looked like equalising but Kogarah responded with a goal to seal the game. Kogarah dominated the game through the attacking tenacity of their young 16 year old NSL star Peter Petkovski.

Coach of the side Michael Costello was equally proud of the performance of the boys.

"The team played with great determination and it's good to see that a few of the boys have yet to reach Year 12. With this extra experience the side should perform just well as they have this year."

Despite dropping out of the competition in the fourth round the lads at Kingsgrove North can be proud when you consider that this has been the best effort from the school in the last 10 years.

The Commonwealth Bank team has many talented juniors coming through the grade ranks in the NSW State League. As previously mentioned John Kero is a consistent second grade player with Croatia and John Moreno is a member of the third grade side at Avala. Not to be outdone brothers Tom and Kori Degennaro and George Georgeopoulos are regular third grade players with the unbeaten Cant-Mville side.

Whatever the future holds Kingsgrove North has built a solid base for future conquests which will hopefully culminate in higher honors for the school.

TURNER CUP SCORES

ROUND 4

DIVISION I - NORTH

Concord HS 2, North Sydney BHS 0

DIVISION II - SOUTH

Patrician Bros Fairfield 2, Ingleburn HS 0

Narwee HS 1g 3pen, Kingsgrove North HS 1g 2pn

DIVISION III - EAST

J.J. Cahill HS 4, Canterbury BHS 1

Ku-ring-gai HS 1, Killarney Hts HS 0

DIVISION IV - WEST

Cambridge Pk HS def Bidwell HS

Northmead HS 4, Mt Druitt HS 2



"I'm afraid the time has come, Mr Jones, when you must give up smoking, drinking, chasing birds and playing football"

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**RISING
STAR**

**MICHAEL
McLAUGHIN**

THE INSTITUTE of Sport has developed many talented Australian players. Among them is Blacktown City striker Michael McLaughlin.

At 19, this young 'Demon' has consolidated a position in the strong Blacktown City line-up.

Michael started his career in the Gladesville-Hornsby district when he was eight. For five years he played for local club Carlingford Redbacks and also represented the Gladesville-Hornsby district side on Sundays from 1972 till 1979.

At only 16, Michael was successfully graded at Auburn in third grade, a club that can boast talented players like Tom McCulloch, Robbie Slater, Brett Woods and Rod Brown.

Jimmy Shoulder was quick to realise Michael's potential and in 1981 and 1982 he spent two years under his astute guidance at the Canberra Institute of Sport.

Michael spoke highly of Jimmy and the Institute.

"The Institute was an experience that I'll never forget. Jimmy Shoulder always helped me with any problems and guided my Soccer interests with a great deal of purpose.

One thing that stands out is the way he can develop inexperienced players into confident and mature ones."

Michael has been recognised for his goalscoring feats and he figured prominently in the training squads for this year's Australian Youth side.

Like many semi-professional Soccer players in Australia, Michael

when you consider the efforts he put in at the Institute and this year at Blacktown."

I asked Michael which players he has most difficulty with in his first year of NSW State League.

"Of the players I have encountered Lee Sterrey of Croatia figures prominently. He is a tight and hard marker but overall I have learnt to respect all the other players I have faced."

Michael hastened to mention the great deal of help and enthusiasm throughout the Blacktown City Soccer club.



found difficulty getting time off to attend the numerous Soccer camps and consequently lasted with the squad till the end of March.

This is understandable when you consider that Michael is in his first year of employment as a Bank officer at a Credit Union.

Blacktown coach Casey De Bruin emphasised this point when he said: "I was most surprised that they didn't select Michael despite his personal setbacks. He was most unlucky to miss selection

"It's a great set-up at Blacktown. Everything is professionally looked after. The senior players have helped and encouraged me tremendously in my first year in the top grade."

"It's just like a big family with everyone offering helpful advice."

On his future aims, Michael answered: "At this stage I just want to cement a spot in first grade and in doing so score plenty of goals. Like most young players I want to reach the top in

Soccer but that can only happen with continued dedication and constant training."

Like most up and coming players there is always a band of dedicated people standing behind him and not necessarily in the limelight.

"Jimmy Shoulder was extremely helpful at the Institute. This year Casey De Bruin has given me the opportunity to consolidate a position in the first eleven. Throughout my career my parents have always guided me and never influenced me to play a particular sport. For that I'm grateful," Michael said.

Blacktown City coach Casey De Bruin couldn't

**'The best
striker'**

speak more highly of Michael.

"He is a player with a heap of potential and no doubt the best striker in the NSW State League. He is incredibly mature for his age and unfortunately for him, he was unlucky to miss the plane to Mexico with the Youth team," said Casey.

I feel sure, as do all Soccer followers of Blacktown, that Michael McLaughlin has just started climbing the ladder of success. A player who has a knack of scoring goals (Michael scored a memorable hat-trick against Avala earlier this year), a deceiving turn and change of pace and one player who no doubt will rank highly in the rankings at the Rothmans Player of the Year presentation night.

BY ANDREW
PASCHALIDIS

ILLAWARRA JOTTINGS

BY PHIL MURPHY

LONG-SERVING Bellambi utility player Geoff Farrar had prided himself on never having missed a penalty — that is before this season.

His record has changed after two premierships games against Berkeley. In both games Farrar was guilty of missing penalties.

In the recent game at Berkeley Sportsground it was a vital miss because his team trailed 2-1 when the spot kick was awarded and eventually went down 3-1.

With three points for a win this year Bellambi could easily have lost all chances of making the semi-finals after that defeat.



ANDY Campbell had a mixed day in the game against Artarmon at Berkeley recently.

The big Wollongong United defender scored for both sides.

Campbell put one over the head of his own goalkeeper Peter Terziovski after the ball deflected off his knee and later he moved up for a corner and scored for United.

After losing to University and only managing a 3-3 draw at home to Artarmon, United are losing valuable ground in what is a very competitive race for promotion.

They have also lost striker Peter Beggs after a four-week spell.

Beggs has returned to Sutherland but scored on his first and last appearance for United.



"HE'S being wasted in this league."

That was how Berkeley

president Ted McAlear summed up Berkeley's informal winger Nicky Greathead.

The former Shellharbour player has been outstanding with Berkeley this year and is among the district's leading goalscorers.

Always ready to take defenders on he has been largely responsible for Berkeley turning in some surprise wins after being on the bottom of the table not too long ago.

YOUNG striker Miguel Reyes is back training with Fairy Meadow. Described by club secretary as a very exciting young player when fit, Reyes was with Fairy Meadow last year and played several first grade games.

He got his share of goals in the reserves and is keen to regain his place in first grade as soon as he can.

With the problems Fairy Meadow have had getting goals recently he could get his chance quicker than he expects.

SAINTS SHOOT FOR SECOND SPOT

St George manager, Frank Arok said last night that by next Sunday night he hopes Saints will be sitting in second place on the NSL ladder.

St George after their valuable away win last Sunday against South Melbourne, picked up three precious points to move up to 21 points

Next Friday night, Saints travel to Queensland for their away clash with Brisbane Lions who will have George Best in their line-up.

Arok will not assign the unenviable task of marking Best to any of his trustworthy defenders.

Arok said: "Best can play wherever he likes. Nobody special will be tracking him."

"If Georgie boy comes down the left flank, Skeenie can have him. If Best wants to come through down the right, well Robbie O'Shea can take him. And if this genius decides to come through the middle, well

Ratcliffe will be only too happy to say hello to him.

"Ratcliffe held Francis no worries, so Best will make no difference to him at all."

Assuming the Saints crack Brisbane Lions, they will move up to 24 points and on Sunday St George will back up for their home-clash with West Adelaide. Another victory there could see the Saints slide into second spot with 27 points.

Arok told us last night: "These eight days will be the most hectic for St George this year. South Melbourne last Sunday, Lions on Friday night and West Adelaide on Sunday. We are aiming to collect at least seven points from these three games. But our task has been made laborious as we have lost our captain Peter Stone, out with a broken toe."

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RATCLIFFE IS MORE SUITED TO RUGBY

By Fred Villiers

ENGLISH sports writer, Ian McNeill, said Australia's David Ratcliffe would be more suited to Rugby than Soccer.

Writing in the News of the World, London's mass circulation Sunday newspaper, McNeill said the way Ratcliffe "this black-haired six-footer dealt with Trevor Francis, the 13-a-side Rugby game could be his spiritual home."

"I counted 20 fouls on the winning Francis in one Australian game against England before I gave up, and the \$3 million man got no protection from the Aussie referee."

"After Ratcliffe's hideous lunge in the second international in Brisbane, a kick that left stud marks on Francis' torso, the referee said: 'One more foul like that and you're off.'"

"It was an empty threat, and it said much for Francis' placid temperament — and bravery — that he was on the plane on his

way home in one piece."

The English journalist who accompanied the Poms on their recent Australian tour, said Ratcliffe had a handful of games for Bradford City in Third and Fourth Divisions between 1974-77 before emigrating to a land where Rugby League is king.

He described the Australians as "having more muscles than method."

But he said Bobby Robson, the England manager, on his first overseas tour as England boss, had been taught a painful lesson: "you don't allow yourself to be messed about by upstarts trying to make a name for themselves."

"Frank Arok, a square-faced Slav placed in charge of the Australian team while the top man was in Mexico for the World Youth tournament, brilliantly stage-managed a confrontation with Robson and revelled in the



The many faces and clashes of David Ratcliffe. Far left, contact with Crino (No 8). Above: pushing past O'Shea and Duvnjic. Right: more muscle.



"Robson is proving a likeable and successful manager, but he walked into this trap with disturbing eagerness."

"What he should have done was to invite the arrogant Arok on to the pitch and swamp him with knowledge and enthusiasm."

"That gesture would have gone down well in Australia where any touchiness or sensitivity from the Poms provides ammunition for those Aussies who insist we (the English) are a bunch of softies."

RASIC WAS NOT SACKED — CLUB MAN

NICK Colins, South Melbourne committee man and the club's public relations official, said Rale Rasic was not sacked by the club.

"We were proposing to ask him to step aside and take on the general manager's job at the club," he said.

"He was not going to be without a job. But we

By Fred Villiers

tried to reach him after the committee had made its decision and we couldn't get him by phone."

Nick said Rasic had been asked to resign as coach to make way for Len McKendry.

"We feel we have asked a person to take over who is a friend of the club," said Nick.

"He's a top coach and we're looking for results."

Nick said the committee were very concerned about the players, the team and the coach. That's why they made their decision.

The committee couldn't understand why, with so much talent in the team, they couldn't produce the results on the field.

"We gave Mr Rasic our 100 per cent support. We didn't expect to win the championship but he had the material," said Nick.

"After our defeat by Canberra we discussed the position and we acted accordingly."



Rasic (above) and Sam Papasavas (left).



David Smallman

SMALLMAN GETS HIS CHANCE

GREEN Gully midfielder David Smallman has been appointed coach of the club until the end of the season.

The appointment was made a short while after the shock resignation of Len McKendry who has taken over at South Melbourne.

Green Gully president, Guy Spiteri, told AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY: "We hold no grudge against Len. He has got one of the most sought-after jobs in Australia."

"It seemed pointless to disrupt the smooth running of our club by introducing a new coach at such a vital time of the season."

"Dave has a lot of experience in the game and will do a good job for us."

"It was a unanimous decision to appoint Dave especially when we have a squad containing so many experienced players."

"All of the players and also the committee are 100 per cent behind Dave," said Mr Spiteri.

THREAT TO SUE

RALE RASIC has threatened to sue South Melbourne for terminating his services last week reports Peter Desira.

The former Socceroo coach was dumped fol-

lowing a lengthy mid-week committee meeting and was replaced by Green Gully supremo Len McKendry.

Rasic was at the clubrooms on the night while his future was being decided behind closed doors in the boardroom and he spoke openly about his ties with the club.

"The move from Sydney to Melbourne cost me around \$25,000 a year in loss of revenue from the Dural centre and I only accepted to come be-

cause of one man - Sam Papasavas."

"If I knew he would not be president after the season I would not have taken the job."

"The club undertook to utilise my services for two years and if they think they can chop and change at will, I will be dealing with the matter in court through my lawyers," Rasic said.

Rasic's sacking follows South Melbourne's poor performances in the National League which has seen the club sliding into

the relegation zone.

Rasic claims he has been sabotaged by a number of players and admits he is sorry not to have taken more notice of people who warned him about players who had loyalties elsewhere.

If South decides - as is likely - to settle the Rasic contract out of court, the coaching change is likely to cost the club in the vicinity of \$40,000.

Len McKendry is understood to have accepted the job on a salary of around \$500 a week.



PERSONALITY OF THE WEEK

JIM PATIKAS

YOUNG OLYMPIAN IS CONFIDENT OF EARLY COMEBACK

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

EASILY one of Australia's most outstanding young players last season was Sydney City's, (now Sydney Olympic), powerful, pacey and hard-tackling, Jimmy Patikas.

In fact, Patikas and Newcastle KB's little courageous striker, David Lowe, dominated the headlines as they reigned supreme on the Soccer pitch.

So dominant, authoritative and consistent was their form, they raised Australia's hopes in her quest for the Coca-Cola Cup in the World Youth Championships in Mexico last month.

Australia, a month before going to Mexico, were rank outsiders for the Cup: but two days before the World Championships kicked off, Mexico's leading paper, Excelsior, had Australia on the front page as being fancied to win the series.

Alas, it was not to be.

Australia took part in the opening match against host nation Mexico, and after being down a goal for the greater part of the match, got out of jail to draw.

I was particularly concerned watching the live telecast that Australia's Jimmy Patikas was nowhere to be seen. And I mean nowhere!

If Australia were going to go anywhere in Mexico, Patikas had to be firing and firing well.

Australia was NOT a one man team, but Patikas was easily the most experienced foot-

baller and the team would "feed" off his powerful play.

After a poor showing against Mexico, what chance next against the flying Scots?

With time running out and the scoreboard showing 1-1, Marconi's little left-back, Joe Rizzotto, latched on to a ball and knocked up a magnificently-measured pass.

So well-directed was it that it completely split Scotland's two defenders shunting-down on Patikas. All Jimmy had to do was turn and run into the pass and take on the goalkeeper, going round him to score the winner from five metres.

Australia had beaten the professional European champions 2-1.

Australia then had to meet Korea and needed at least a draw to qualify for the next round.

In this match Australia were given a hiding, well outclassed in all departments.

But while Australia looked pathetic, Patikas at last came good.

Time after time he set off chasing opponents and winning balls. Patikas had been "found" again but it was too late. Korea murdered Australia, and Patikas' form was not good enough to prevent the homicide.

Let's wind the clock back about 14 weeks before the WYC.

in Mexico?

A: "Honestly speaking, we were just not good enough. Sure we were fit. Maybe fitter than most of the other teams, but skill-wise we were well behind. Korea was murder.

"Korea's skills matched their fitness. Ours didn't. It's as simple as that."

Q: Main differences you have found playing with Olympic as when you were playing with Sydney City?

A: With Sydney City, I was pretty close to Eddie Thomson. He was terrific. He helped me enormously. All the boys there were great and they knew each other for a long time which makes a big difference. We knew each other inside out. That all helps.

"With Olympic, it has taken me a lot longer to settle down into their style of play.

"At Sydney City I ran off the strikers well. Now I'm just starting to get into Olympic's rhythm. It takes time you see."

Q: Who will win this year's title?

A: "Sydney Olympic. I think we have evened out now and are set for a good run home. But I still feel Sydney City will have to be the team to beat."

Q: Which match in Mexico was the toughest?

A: "Against Mexico. As I said before, they came at us like rockets. They were really built up for this match and with over 100,000 locals in the Stadium right behind them. They were high, don't worry about that."

Q: For 1985 what should Australia do to prepare for the next WYC?

A: Basically the same. More and more training camps. They are vitally important to all the players. More international competition no matter who. Not only Asians. South Americans, Europeans... anyone and everyone. Constant competition to monitor our own as well as their strengths and weaknesses.

"It's not for me to really say, but a little better planning as well. Constant changes with hotels etc. - travelling and so forth... was a bit of a joke and taxed players in the end.

"For example, when we arrived late for the first match against Mexico, we were in the bus for nearly 2½ hours. Yet the trip normally takes half an hour."

Q: How did you feel when you received that magnificent ball from Joe Rizzotto to score

Patikas had been transferred from Eddie Thomson's Sydney City, to Sydney Olympic with a most lucrative contract.

His former coach, Eddie Thomson, had made this young teenager into an outstanding, powerful, determined and explosive footballer.

But the eager Sydney Olympic fans noticed a great change in Patikas' form.

His form dropped alarmingly.

Most fans were not aware that Patikas was playing week in week out with an injured ankle. Instead of taking three weeks off and resting it, he kept playing to try and justify his purchase by his new club.

This was foolish.

Added to all this, were the worry and interruptions he had with the national team's preparations for Mexico.

Now with his return to club football, Patikas is ready for a big comeback.



Patikas: optimistic

against Scotland?

A: "Obviously great. I thought well I've pulled one back for my knockers."

Q: "Better still, what went through your mind when you realised you had the chance to win the game by scoring?"

A: "I got a feeling that I was flying through the air, supremely confident. As I approached Scotland's goalkeeper, I was determined not to bomb it and dummied inside to go round him before pushing it home from close range. I had practised this at training a few times in case the opportunity ever arose. It did."

Q: Now that you have returned to club com-

mitments, how will you overcome your drop in form?

A: "I feel much better settled and many of the other players feel the same way too. We will start performing well. I've had talks with coach Tommy Docherty and he has been great and told me not to worry. He said he knows my ability and things will come."

Jimmy Patikas is too good to remain in the doldrums for long. He has the energy, determination and enthusiasm to get back up fast and also help his new club Sydney Olympic climb the NSL ladder to bring some happiness and satisfaction to the many thousands of Olympic fans.



Jim is looking strong

"Their confidence was sky-high. They had been built up and knew every square inch of that ground. If you saw them in their matches after they played us, they were terrible.

"Against Scotland I was still not feeling the best. But they didn't look crash-hot either mind you.

"I started to find my feet by time we played Korea."

Q: What do you feel were the main reasons Australia didn't achieve better results



'Docherty knows my ability'



At 23, George Best is presented with a 'Sportsman of the Year' award by the then Prime Minister, Harold Wilson. (Right), George, with trophy.

THE true fact about George Best is that on the day he was born in East Belfast 37 years ago he became public property.

And with more than a streak of non-conformity running through his veins, his everlasting search for individual freedom made him a rebel — with or without a cause, depending on which way you assess the man.

There has been a great deal written and said about his world-wide and much publicised exploits, but very little on how this footballing genius first came to the forefront.

He was born on May 22nd 1946 at the Royal Maternity Hospital in Belfast to his late mother Ann and father Dick Best from Burren Way on the sprawling Cregagh housing estate in Belfast.

It was a difficult birth and indeed touch and go whether or not young George would pull through.

He was named after his grandfather George Withers a man he adored and

admired.

It was a big blow in young George's life when at the age of 11 years and in the middle of his 11-plus school examinations at Nettlefield School, he learned of his

grandfather's death.

George's first introduction to Soccer came when he was five and his parents took him to junior matches at the local Wilgar Park near their home.

He quickly got to know everybody at this Soccer centre and even at this early age there were signs that an inbred talent existed.

George's boyhood matches were played on a

field near Bell's Bridge, Cregagh, a few hundred yards from his home.

People often stopped to watch in awe at the ball control and skill of this slip of a lad.

Soon George Best became a young Soccer legend in East Belfast.

Despite praise from all around, his Mum and Dad never really believed they had a football genius as a son.

Certainly they knew their youngster had the heart of a lion, but he looked too frail and skinny to make it in the hurly burly of top class Soccer.

But despite his parents' doubts, there were many others who were impressed and young George was quickly signed by Cregagh Youth Club.

This was his first real stepping stone on the road to fame and fortune and

Old Trafford, the home of the famous Manchester United.

George's development at the youth club was rapid and he was a quick learner and a keen student of the game.

The man who took George under his wing in these early days was the late Hugh 'Bud' McFarlane.

From the start Best was McFarlane's protege and

pupil.

Even if McFarlane wanted any messages taken he just called on George, who would scamper off with a ball at his feet, dribbling it as he ran.

At that time George attended Grosvenor High School, but did not like it, for there was no Soccer played at the school.

He soon left and moved on to a strong Soccer

school, Lisnasharragh Intermediate.

As a schoolboy, Best was never chosen for Northern Ireland; for some reasons known to the selectors at that time he was overlooked.

McFarlane was far from happy about this and challenged the Northern Ireland schoolboy international team with his Under 15 team which included Georgie Best.

The national team was beaten 2-1 with Best the star of the game.

A number of years later, one of the Irish schoolboy selectors George Smyth did disclose that his panel though Best was too small and light to make the grade.

Manchester United thought differently however and George was invited to Old Trafford for a week's trial.

He arrived in Manchester on the Tuesday, but got terribly homesick and was back in Belfast on the Thursday!

On arrival back home, his father had a long talk with him with the result that George went back to Old Trafford immediately.

He signed amateur forms for United on August 16, 1961 and became a clerk with the Manchester Canal Company.

It was not long before he became a full time professional and made his first appearance for the Manchester United first team against West Bromwich United on September 14, 1963.

The rest is now footballing history!

How did George Best become a footballing genius? Read on . . .



Above: George (32) has a new manager and wife — Angie! Below: Today George has a new love — former MissWorld Mary Stavin.



REBEL WITH A CAUSE

BY TOM ANDERSON

MORE SOCCER MORE OFTEN On Channel 0/28.

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Women in Soccer

By Don Balmain

OF COURSE, IT'S GROWING PAINS

INTEREST in the problems besetting the Victorian Women's Association, where one team is dominating the competition, has sparked comment from Queensland.

Marese Stephens, the publicity officer from the South Queensland Association says that unfortunately it has to be realised that women's Soccer is still a growing sport.

Because of limited

numbers, it is hard for some States to have six to eight teams in the top division.

Sth. Queensland has been having the same problems as Victoria for some years now. Until

three years ago, the top team in the first division competition in Brisbane was Annerley.

This team consisted of a large proportion of representative players which made things difficult for other sides.

About five years ago, a bunch of dedicated and raw youngsters regularly had the pants thrashed off them for two years running.

Today, that same team is called Eastern Suburbs and is on top of the ladder.

They have not been beaten in a competition match in two years and constitute most of the South Queensland State team.

Four of the girls in the side have been honoured in the Australian 1982 national side and it was all due to their hard work and the fact that the team had few changes in the time they have been together.

Mrs. Stephens asks how could any Association tell this team that they could only have a certain number of State or ex-State players in its ranks as the format in Victoria seems to be suggesting?

The Sth. Queensland Association is certainly not trying to alter the situation because they realise that it is one that will work itself out with the clubs and the girls playing making the change.

Marese says it probably will take a couple of years but, she reasons, what better way could you find?

Last year, there were quite a number of teams who did not want to go up into first division as they did not want to be thrashed by the Easts team.

The big cry around Brisbane is not the number of times that Easts win but who will be the first team that is going to knock them off the top rung?

A team typical of enterprising girls trying to win a title for the first time in top competition is Riverside. Two years ago, girls from various clubs in the Brisbane first divisions formed the club as a breakaway in the hope of winning the Premiership.

Marese Stephens says they have not done so yet but are running a close second.

Similarly, a team from Ipswich called the Coalstars have been building up their ranks for the same purpose.

They had three talented girls chosen to play in the 1982 Sth. Queensland side, successful at the Nationals, and this year, six were chosen for the Brisbane teams who played in the State Championships, recently held.

Because they did not fancy being beaten continually by top teams

each week, three first division clubs disbanded this year but most of the girls were not lost to Soccer.

They are still playing first division football but in other sides.

A new club, Kingston City, was formed with all girls coming from the disbanded clubs. They have boasted that they are ready to beat all comers. Marese says next year they could really be in the race.

Because of a ruling by the Sth. Queensland executive, that there be at least eight sides in first division, three from the second division elevated including premiership winner, Virginia.

Each team had quite a number of changes when they were put up says Marese, and they were totally petrified that they had to play Eastern Suburbs.

Although they had no star material in the ranks, Virginia were determined that they were not going to be thrashed by a big-time outfit when they played Easts.

The scoreline told the story better than any pep talk could, said Mrs. Stephens.

Instead of the lottery scores claimed in previous games, Easts defeated Virginia 2-0 and the second goal was scored minutes before full-time.

Virginia did not win but were so proud of themselves that they had kept the score so low.

With the love of the game and the sportsmanship displayed, Marese thinks they will reach the stage where they will have a very good first division competition soon.

FIFA PROBE RANGERS BAN

THE infamous ban on the signing of Catholics by Glasgow Rangers — a ban some Rangers officials claim does not exist — could soon make world headlines.

FIFA has asked the Scottish F.A. to investigate the situation.

SFA secretary Ernie Walker, who could be embarrassed by such a strange request from the rulers of world Soccer, has promised action.

"It is not a problem from which we will shrink," said Walker.



ADELAIDE City president Mr Lou Ravesi travelled with the team for the match against Sydney City.

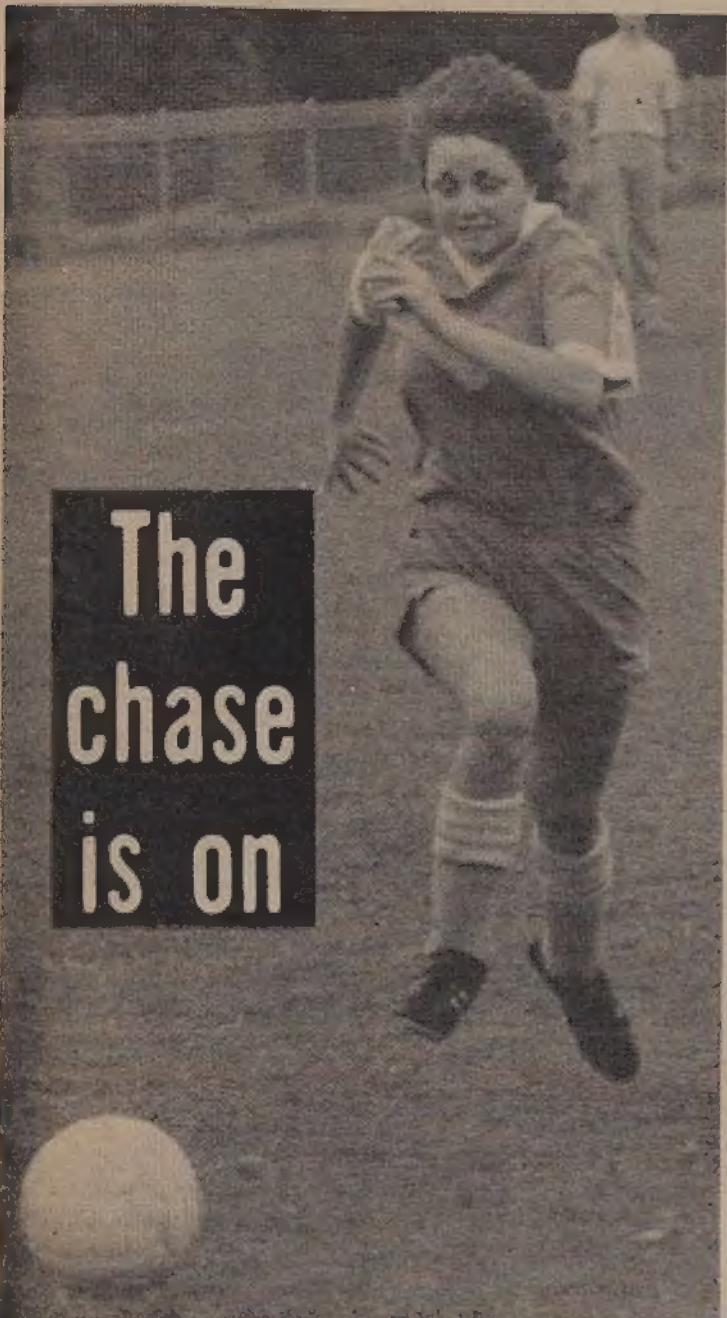
But he didn't return with any new players.

Word is he was in Sydney to meet one of the club's major sponsors.

More cash next year?



Defender Ralph Maier, who captained Australia in the World Youth Championship match against Scotland, has been unable to regain his place in the Newcastle KB United defence due to the great consistency of Michael Boogaard.



Our girls in action, in a recent Gladesville-Hornsby division 1 women's game. Ryde R.S.L. full-back Leon Piccolo (left) in full flight. Above: North Ryde defender Leanne Smith challenges an Epping-Eastwood forward.



WITHE KNEE IS OK

PETER Withe, the Aston Villa centre-forward who pulled out of England's tour of Australia with injury, has had an exploratory operation of his knee.

The news was good...no cartilage damage. Withe is celebrating by getting back into shape for the start of the 1983-84 season.

RAVESI LEAVES CLUB SOLVENT

BY TOM McKAIN

WHEN Adelaide City president Mr Lou Ravesi steps down tonight he will leave the club solvent, a job he was asked to do two and a half years ago.

"When the club auctions its 'Home of the 80s' on July 14, the club will be solvent, and I couldn't ask for anything more," said Mr Ravesi.

"I have stayed six months longer than I intended, but I am planning to run for an Alderman vacancy on the Adelaide City Council then for the position of Deputy Lord Mayor, and this will leave me no spare time for soccer."

Mr Ravesi said City could now survive financially, but would have to keep a firm check on expenses.

"We have had the help of some excellent sponsors, and provided the club consolidates relationships with them it should survive," he said.

"But it won't be easy in the present financial climate if we have to run out and buy players."

"The present squad is doing a tremendous job, and money should be spent only if a special type of player is available."

Club officials have been

canvassing for a new president, and he is expected to be named tonight.

Supporters and members of the City board attempted to persuade Mr Ravesi to stay on until the

end of 1984, following a special meeting last Friday week, but he was adamant that he could not work for the club, and Adelaide Council, at the same time.

"I've worked for sport for most of my life, and now I need a new challenge," said Mr Ravesi who is a senior Adelaide City Councillor.

Still Australia's veteran handball champion, he also played Australian Rules Football and was president of the West Adelaide Rules club before taking over at Adelaide City.

Commenting on the National League, he said it had to continue, but costs would have to be cut.

BRISBANE OLYMPIC CRASH

BRISBANE OLYMPIC, who last week crashed to their first defeat of the season, clash with Mount Gravatt in the top of the table Premier League match in Brisbane next weekend.

Olympic's 11 match unbeaten run came to an end when they went down 1-2 to rivals Brisbane Lions but this week they get the chance to consolidate themselves at the top of the table if they can

beat the Hawks.

Olympic went into the match with Lions with a patched-up side that was without defensive mainstay Mark McNaughton and his backline partners Danny Drake and Nick

Nritcou.

McNaughton, who had a slight leg injury, came on late in the game when David Allen and Calvin Daunt had put Lions well ahead, and managed to set-up Andy Ogden for a consolation goal. By then it was too late.

Mount Gravatt have also struggled since losing midfielder Harry Stewart nearly six weeks ago but have still managed to pick up points.

With player-coach Eric Thompson now in the midfield, the Hawks have been keeping Olympic honest over the past month and now have the chance to topple the cocky pace-setters.

Over-confidence was Olympic's biggest problem in recent weeks according to club officials but the Lions defeat managed to bring the players back to earth and coach Con Tharanou is confident his team can recapture its early season form.

Lions win over Olympic put paid to the critics who said the NSL club had sold all its good youngsters to the Greeks. Coach Iain Kesson believes in players like Frank Byrne, Brad Kearton and Dave Allen. He has youngsters equivalent, if not better, in ability to those sold to Olympic.

Lions play Ipswich in the western suburbs "derby" next weekend and former Lions NSL sweeper Alan Marszalek



could make his return for the Jacaranda men.

Marszalek was sold back to Ipswich last week after Lions coach Simon Kistemaker converted Australian Youth team midfielder Russell Stewart to sweeper and decided Lions no longer required the services of the player they had desperately sought at the start of the season.

Marszalek came to Lions in a swap for Ron Millman but the club refused to be in a re-swap and demanded a transfer fee for Marszalek, something that left a sour taste in the mouths of Ipswich officials and fans.

In another match next weekend, the improving North Star under the direction of former Brisbane City coach George Potter, take on early sea-

son pace-setters Easts, who have begun to slide through the table.

Two of the most inconsistent teams in the competition, Grange Thistle and Acacia Ridge, clash at Lanham Park and the result is anyone's guess.

In other clashes, the bottom four sides meet when Sunnyside hosts Valley Trident and Tarin-ga visit Brisbane City.

METRO LEAGUE MAY BE CANCELLED

THE SA Federation Board has invited all clubs to have a say in planning for next season, and there is certain to be another call for a 14-team First Division, and the

same number for a Second Division, and the scrapping of the Metropolitan League.

No matter what happens it is expected that moves will be made to remove the NSL clubs' reserve teams.

West has shocked the Federation by taking over as First Division League leaders with a team of youngsters plus two or three fringe NSL players.

And Adelaide City are running second in Second Division behind the big-spending Salisbury.

While the locals wanted West and City back to boost their gates, they do not want to be humiliated by what the NSL regards as reserve players.

Bad luck for Beograd's Robbie Krizman and Campbelltown's Lou Pivetta.

Both look like being out for the rest of the season, Pivetta with stomach muscle trouble, and Krizman with a nasty leg injury.

TROUBLE DOUBLE

Steve Amos, the former NSL player with West, then Brisbane Lions, has still not found himself a new club.

He fell out with State league outfit Para Hills and trained with Adelaide City, but they decided not to sign him, and word was that Amos would buy out his own contract.

FORSTER'S FIVE IN OLYMPIC ROMP

BY "VAN DIEMEN"

OLYMPIA striker Perry Forster and newly-promoted University grabbed the limelight in Cadbury State League matches in Tasmania.

Forster scored five goals as Olympia demolished White Eagles 8-1 and University surprisingly trounced reigning champion Rapid-Wrest Point 4-0.

Forster scored twice in the first half and veteran Tommy Wright smashed in a superb third goal from 18 metres to give the Greek side a comfortable 3-0 half-time lead.

The second half saw Forster score three more times, in the 60th, 61st and 74th minutes, before defender Chris Hey joined the act with two more goals.

Andrew Leszczynski pulled one back for Eagles in the final minute when he beat three defenders before firing home a lethal shot from the edge of the area.

Forster is now well clear in the goalscoring list with 13 from 11 matches. Last season, he scored seven goals in a Cup match against Nelson United and it is this type of form that saw Frankston give him a trial a couple of seasons ago.

Juventus-Pioneer retained a tenuous hold on the League leadership when it could only play a scoreless draw with Caledonians.

Croatia needed to beat Metro by three goals to go to the top but it could only win 2-0 with first-half goals by Thomas and Oakes.

Rapid was favoured to beat University easily, especially after its 3-0 defeat of Juventus the previous week, but the students defied their League position and their recent poor form to trounce the champion.

Shearman gave University a half-time lead when he scored with a scorching shot in the 27th minute and everyone waited for the expected Rapid onslaught after the break.

Goals by Jenkins and Crowther after only six minutes of the half dispelled such thinking, however, and when Jenkins shot in the 80th minute was deflected into the net for University's fourth, everyone wondered just how many more they would get.

DETAILS: Olympia 8 White Eagles 1, Juventus-Pioneer 0 Caledonians 0, Croatia-Glenorchy 2 Metro-Claremont 0, University 4 Rapid 0.

TASMANIAN CADBURY LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	11	8	1	2	25	10	17
Croatia	11	8	1	2	29	15	17
Olympia	11	6	3	2	35	19	15
Rapid	11	5	2	4	18	17	12
Metro	11	4	2	5	18	19	10
Caledonians	11	3	3	5	23	23	9
University	11	3	0	8	18	38	6
White Eagles	11	1	0	10	11	36	2

LEADING GOALSCORERS

Forster (Olympia) 13
Parker (Caledonians) 9
Thomas (Croatia) 8
Ward (Juventus), Sherman (Olympia) 7
Nichols (Olympia), Oakes (Croatia) 6
Kirkpatrick (Croatia), Di Felice (Juventus) 5

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SNAPSHOTS FROM THE PACIFIC SOCCER CAMP



SYDNEY UNI — MAY '83

Richard Alagich and Leo Baumgartner talk to a group of the boys.

AUBURN WILL NOT FOLD

AUBURN president Derek Bedwell strongly denies rumours that his club is about to fold.

"I can't understand why anyone would want to start such vicious rumours," he said.

Understandably, Bedwell is worried that these rumours could seriously damage team morale and affect performances on the field.

"I am most distressed. Financial problems confront most clubs but at this stage we are solvent and if anyone wants to check we are well into our bank overdraft," he said.

"All the players are paid on a weekly basis and there is no way in the world that we will fold now or in future years."

At this stage of the season Auburn have only three points.

A club that was a foundation member of the Federation, Auburn have produced some talented players in recent years (Tom McCulloch, Brett Woods, Robbie Slater and Rod Brown).



CROATIA's ace striker, Mark Holloway could make a comeback sooner than expected. He has been plagued with injuries throughout the season.

During the pre-season he damaged his left knee and was ruled out for six weeks. Tragedy struck on May 27. During a training run his knee locked up.

Mark sought private advice and on June 31 he had an arthroscopic operation (this is the same

operation that rugby league player Mitch Brennan had and within three weeks he was playing again).

Mark started training last Thursday. Previously he trained privately with emphasis on beach running to strengthen his leg.

QUALIFIED COACH SEEKS POSITION

I have an English F.A. Coaching badge and looking for a club to coach in Sydney.

I was a professional player in Scotland, England and North America.

I have coached in England, America and Norway.

For further information, please call me on 758 1499.

P. Dunne

COOTAMUNDRA MOVES UP

COOTAMUNDRA, one of the South West Slopes clubs, is holding fourth place in the Northern Riverina Soccer League.

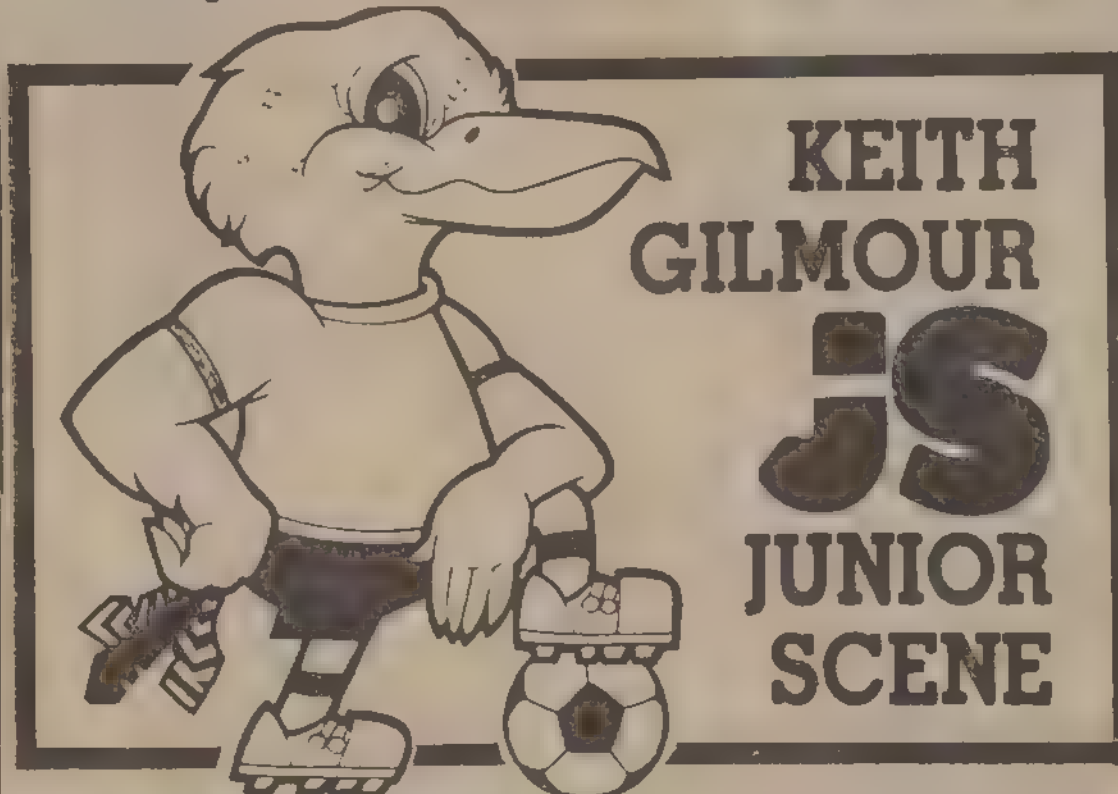
The League is in its second year of existence and is lifting standards of Soccer in its section of the NSW countryside.

The main strength of the League is centred on Wagga. Henwood Park lead the first grade com-

petition, closely followed by Ashmont.

Henwood Park runs two first grade teams as does the RAAF. Other Wagga clubs involved at Wagga United and Rivcol, the Riverina College of Advanced Education.

Junee also competes from that district, whilst the other South West Slopes clubs are Young, Temora and Tumut.



WATCH THIS BLACKTOWN UNITED SHILLINGTON

COMING up through the ranks with Blacktown United is under 15 goalkeeper Mark Shillington.

Club secretary Tony Hill classes Mark as having the attributes that should result in his becoming an outstanding player, saying that he possesses skill, fitness and dedication.

Club coach Dave Zeman, a former Australian international centre-half, is the man with oversight of players coming through the club's junior teams to obtain their positions in the senior side, which plays in the NSW Second Division.

At the age of 13 Mark was playing third game, which is mainly an under 18 side.

A year later at 14 he became the regular third

grade goalie and he sits on the bench for the second grade game.

On the same day on this particular occasion he managed to also play for the club's under 15 Div 1 team in the Blacktown Association competition.

Recently he played in Wollongong for Blacktown United third grade and dashed back home to play in the under 15 grade.

When the club's second grade goalkeeper was suspended, young Mark hopped in to play a top game in the reserve team.

Keep it up Mark, obviously you have a deal of the dedication necessary to give you a start in becoming a champion.

**He's
going
places**

Richard Alagich (right), Camp Director and Leo Baumgartner (left), Instructor, take a few moments off to chat to ex-Asia player of the "fifties", Santo Cannata.



RIVERINA SOCCER MARATHON IS SET

THE 1983 Young Socceroos have been booked to come together for a final game on Saturday October 29.

Arrangements have been made with the Australian Soccer Federation for the team to play a promotional match against Riverina under floodlights at the Eric Weissel Oval in Wagga Wagga.

Wagga and District Soccer Association president Jim Creed is on the Southern NSW Riverina Sporting Promotions Committee and has been setting up the arrangements along with Barry Sadlier, Chris Schmid, and Graham Bellamy.

Nominations for Riverina representative coach and manager have closed and the appointment will soon be made.

FIFA referee Tony Boskovic has agreed to handle the game and well known NSL referee Doug Rennie will also be involved.

There will be an entire day of Soccer activities. Early games will be played by leading Under 18 sides from Dubbo, Wagga, Griffith and Albury.

A civic reception for the team is to be held, and four sponsorships to assist the event have already been taken up.

Promises of support have come in from many centres in southern and western NSW as well as the ACT.

These include Goulburn, Gundagai, Griffith, Albury, Cootamundra, Harden, Young, Tumut, Parkes, Dubbo, Wollongong, Griffith and Albury as well as Narrabundah in the ACT.

An invitation is going to former Australian captain Johnny Warren to handle the match broadcast.

The day should bring together one of the largest sporting crowds for the Riverina area.

It is good to see western towns taking an interest in the promotion as the day is fast approaching when Soccer will be a major country sport, if it is not already the case.



Johnny Warren with friend and admirer



Johnny Warren invited to handle broadcast

NSW YOUTH CO-LEADER

Sutherland under 14 Youth League team. With one deferred game to play, is co-leader with Apia in Group B of the NSW Youth League. They are (Back): E. Huddleston (Coach), M. Lardis, G. Logue, S. Leney, B. Parkes, S. Tye, I. Ross. (Front): A. Kelson, D. Harrop, M. Ryan, C. Hill, S. Scott, D. Ensor, S. Miller (goal-keeper) Absent: B. Bultitude, B. Scott (Manager) — Picture M. Ryan.

CANTERBURY PILOT COACH COURSE A GRAND SUCCESS

THE last of four Basic Coaching Courses organised and conducted by John Tscheppera, Director of Coaching of the Canterbury District Soccer Football Association for coaches, parents and interested people of the district was successfully completed recently.

The course was held at Earlwood Oval over four Monday evenings.

They were organised for those needing assistance in teaching the basic Soccer skills to players.

During the course the candidates were shown how young players could be organised into purposeful and enjoyable Soccer activities.

Eleven candidates, M. Panzarino, J. Costello, N. Maiuri, S. Kiproff, V. Suorinic, V. Ilanic, L. Gray, N. Pudsey, M. Doyle, A. Glastras and P. Antonini attended.

Mr Tscheppera said: "They had such a good time that they joined in with boys from Earlwood's U10's in many of the activities. This helped them to understand the problems youngsters face during training sessions."

"We had one candidate who didn't even have a team to coach, but he still came."

"This shows that there are people who are prepared to commit themselves and learn more about the game."

The interest shown has prompted many other people to enquire about running more of these courses.

If clubs or people can get groups of 10 or more together and are prepared

Not even a team to coach, but he attended

to commit themselves for approximately 16 hours

then a course can be organised for them.

Mr Tscheppera added: "This type of course is the first in the line towards more advanced courses"

"People come away from these courses and say that they realise now that there is so much more to Soccer than just turning up at training."

"Already some of these coaches have tried many of the things they have learnt at the course and were pleasantly surprised at how well it worked."

Congratulations to those who successfully completed the course, and to the youngsters from Earlwood Club who also took part.

From Helm Saad

DUAL SKILLS AWARD SYSTEMS

COACHES in Ku-ring-gai District teams are asked to arrange for their players to increase their skills through the local scheme as well as under the McDonald's Socceroo Super Skills Awards.

The local programme is designed to be complementary with the national 16 — approved McDonald's Awards.

All players in the District are eligible to compete for the various levels of the KDSA Super Skills Awards. Seven levels of awards have been established.

Each level is identified as follows: Red, Green, Blue, Bronze, Silver, Gold and Super Award.

To receive an award a player will have to achieve a number of appropriate targets in various skills which will include juggling, head juggling, skill circuit, shooting at goal,

etc. Each award level becomes progressively more difficult so that the programme will cater for all players from the young Club or school player to the senior Club player to the District representative or K.S.C. representative player.

An attractive track suit badge will be provided to winners of awards from Red to Gold. The Super award winner will receive

Continued on page 18 column 1

ENTER NOW

Junior clubs, schools and associations supplying stories and/or pictures to AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY up to the issue of September 27, 1983 qualify for consideration for this year's prizes.

They are: First \$300, Second \$200, Third \$100, with two consolation prizes of \$75 each. The decision of the editorial staff is final. Keep your news and photos coming in to ASW, Box 406, Broadway 2007. (Black & white pictures are preferred, but we will do our best with all color shots supplied).

SERDERON THE PLASTIC MAN PRIZE



MY FAVOURITE PLAYER

You have a favourite player in the National or State Leagues? Good.

If you are under 16, write to Mark Jankovics c/- AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY and tell us about him.

Marconi's Mark Jankovics is one of the all time top scorers in the National Soccer League and has played for Australia.

He is one of the owners of The Sports Centre at Parramatta Westfield, Carlingford Court and Bankstown Square.

He will award a sports bag of your choice (value \$15) if you are a fortnightly prize winner.

If you are from interstate then your bag will be sent to you.

So write to Mark Jankovics, c/- AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY, Box 406, Broadway 2007, and tell us about your favourite star — in not more than six sentences.

FAVOURITE PLAYER WINNER

OH DEAR! Once again the winner of Mark Jankovics' fine sports bag which he awards regularly on behalf of his sports goods stores known as The Sports Centre at popular Parramatta Westfield, Carlingford Court and Bankstown Square has gone outside Sydney. Looks like the lads from Newcastle and Wollongong have really taken over. So what about it Sydney. You have untold thousands of players and surely you have more Soccer heroes than you have been telling us about.

This week's winning entry is from that enjoyable centre at Belmont North, on the coast and on Lake Macquarie just south of Newcastle. Here it is.

MY favourite player in the NSL is David Lowe who plays with Newcastle KB United.

I like David as a NSL player because of his natural ability. He has the ability to score with either foot. David has got really good ball skills. He seems to be able to turn and attack defenders very easily. David is an unpredictable player who I am sure will get in the Australian A team.

Glen Kaiser (14) Belmont North 2280

OLYMPIC CHASE MARCONI

These young men of Sydney Olympic U-15 are in hot pursuit of Youth League leader Marconi. Team effort is firmly in the hands of Nick Nickolopoulos (far left) and Con Andrews (far right), coach and manager respectively.

a track suit with an embroidered badge.

Coaches appointed by a Club or school will be permitted to act as test examiners for the Red, Green and Blue awards. Only District Coaching staff appointed by the Director of Coaching will be permitted to examine for the Bronze, Silver, Gold and Super awards.

This programme was launched during June 1982. The introduction and demonstration evening was well attended by Club coaches.

To date 310 skills badges have been awarded, including 214 Red Awards, 68 Green

Awards, 25 Blue Awards and 3 Silver Awards.

Congratulations to all boys who have achieved awards. This year we hope to report that some Gold and Super Awards have been won.

A new award, level, the Bronze Award, has been introduced this year. Last year a number of younger players were able to achieve the Blue Award, but the lads would not have developed the physical strength to compete for the Silver Award this year.

Thus the Bronze Award was initiated to bridge the gap between Blue and Silver.

For your information, the table of awards is presented below.

ACT COACHES GRAB A MAC

BY STEVE BURNS

CANBERRA'S McDonald's franchise holder, John Foster, is about to push hard to get the McDonald's Super Skills Awards up-and-running in the ACT.

SUPER SQUAD FOR A.C.T.

By STEVE BURNS

BLACKTOWN CITY's talented "super squad" — combined 13 and 14 year-olds — has approached Canberra's ACTSF Academy of Soccer for a game on the Sunday of the July long weekend.

"We would be happy to accept the offer," said the Academy's Executive Director, Gianni D'Addario, "but we await ratification from the Federation."

Mr D'Addario said the game would be played against the Academy's Under 14 squad.

"The idea is that they come here in July — we go there in September," he added.

"The invitation was made by Blacktown City assistant coach, David Lee.

"His combined Under 13 and Under 14 squad has a great reputation," Mr D'Addario said.

He added that in Sydney in September the idea would be to expand the weekend arrangement into a round robin with two or three other youth teams competing.

"This is just the type of competition we need," he said.

ACT Director of Soccer Coaching, Mr Les Bee, said briefing sessions on the scheme had already been held for both Southside and Northside Canberra coaches and a major television promotion was about to begin.

"Close to 50 attended the sessions," Mr Bee said.

"Coaches now have a much clearer picture of what the scheme means and what are the differences between the levels of difficulty to obtain the various cloth and metal badges as well as the McDonald's Superskills Certificate ... plus the McDonald's food vouchers which in themselves are worth \$2.50 per entrant.

"The degree of difficulty just keeps on getting tougher right up to the Gold Medal or Gold Level for entrants up to 13 years of age."

Mr Bee said he believed the Superskills scheme a marvellous idea for it concentrated on improving a youngster's all-round skills such as kicking, trapping, juggling, control and dribbling.

"Now that coaches understand fully the system we will instigate an approach that will allow coaches to test for the awards," Mr Bee said.

"However, for the Gold Award we will institute something special that should gain useful television exposure for McDonald's."



"Get me the psychiatrist. I've got a nut who wants to be a football manager."

McDonald's SOCCEROO SUPER SKILLS AWARDS



K.D.S.A SOCCER - SUPERSKILLS - AWARD

SUPER SKILLS AWARD LEVEL	AWARD COLOUR	TESTS						TIME ALLOWED FOR COMPLETION OF TESTS	TEST EXAMINERS
		*1 JUGGLING	*2 HEAD JUGGLING	*3 SHOOTING AT GOAL	*4 SKILL CIRCUIT	*5 LOFTED PASS	*6 CHIP		
E	RED	10	5	T = 2m d = 10m Score: ≥ 3/5 each foot	CIRCUIT A Time: 14 s	-	-	Complete all 4 tests between 1st. Competition round and Gala Day in one season.	Any coach appointed by a Club or School.
D	GREEN	20	10	T = 2m d = 12m Score: ≥ 4/5 each foot	CIRCUIT A Time: 12.5 s	-	-	Complete all 4 tests between 1st. Competition round and Gala Day in one season.	Any coach appointed by a Club or School.
C	BLUE	50	15	T = 1.5m d = 12m Score: ≥ 4/5 each foot	CIRCUIT A Time: 11 s	-	-	Complete all 4 tests between 1st. Competition round and Gala Day in one season.	Any coach appointed by a Club or School.
C/B	BRONZE	100	20	T = 1.5m d = 13m Score: ≥ 3/5 each foot N.B. To score ball must cross line 5m behind goal	CIRCUIT B Time: 22 s	d = 22m Score: ≥ 3/5 each foot	-	Complete all 4 tests between 1st. Competition round and Gala Day in one season.	District Coaching Staff (appointed by D.O.C.) only.
B	SILVER	200	25	T = 1.5m d = 13m Score: ≥ 4/5 each foot N.B. To score ball must cross line 5m behind goal	CIRCUIT B Time: 20 s	d = 30m Score: ≥ 3/5 each foot	-	Complete all 5 tests within 28 consecutive days.	District Coaching Staff (appointed by D.O.C.) only.
A	GOLD	500	50	T = 1.5m d = 13m Score: ≥ 4/5 each foot N.B. To score ball must cross line 10m behind goal.	CIRCUIT B Time: 18 s	d = 35m Score: ≥ 3/5 each foot	d = 8m Score: ≥ 4/5 each foot	All tests to be completed on one day.	District Coaching Staff (appointed by D.O.C.) only.
SUPER	TRACKSUIT	1000 PLUS 100 left & right alternately (feet or thighs)	100	T = 2m d = 16.5m (edge of penalty area) Score: ≥ 4/5 each foot. N.B. To score ball must cross goal line on full.	CIRCUIT Time: 17 s	d = 35m Score: ≥ 4/5 each foot	d = 6m Score: ≥ 4/5 each foot	All tests to be completed on one day	District Coaching Staff (appointed by D.O.C.) only

OLYMPIC LIVERPUDLIANS!



Meet Captain Socratis Agiasotis (left), a strong player along with his team mate Vic Robert (below) another strong defender. These young U-12 Olympic teamsters from Liverpool take their soccer seriously.



FORBES SURPRISES

THE first full round of the Branch Championships and W.N.S.W. Youth League held in Forbes produced some surprise results.

There is no U15 competition so the only U15 team entered by Calare is playing with the U16 age group, with some excellent results and look as though they could win that division.

Bathurst, under the

new Mitchell Association, seem to be the most successful Association and could possibly take out the under U10 - U14 age groups.

Dubbo U16 beat Calare 2-1 in a tight and exciting game.

UNDER 14. In this age group a big surprise came from Forbes beating Dubbo in one game 2-0 and Parkes 7-1. While the Bathurst team was under strength and could only field 11 players for the two games, they still put up a fine effort to beat Dubbo 3-1 and Parkes 6-1.

UNDER 13. This again proved to be one of the most competitive age groups with Bathurst and Calare looking very much the final contenders. The Bathurst team also had players missing.

UNDER 12. Bathurst again proved very dominant in this age group due in some cases to boys in other areas not playing in their rep teams this year.

UNDER 11. Bathurst again dominated here with some very close scores. The surprise of the day was Forbes drawing with Calare.

UNDER 10. Also a very competitive age group with some very close scores. In this group Bathurst and Orana played a 2-all draw in a very exciting game. Bathurst and Orana look to be the teams in the final.

All in all a very enjoyable day was had by everyone, with many thanks to the Forbes Association for their fine effort on the day.

COSMOS LOOK A TIRED TEAM



Franz Beckenbauer: 'we're tired and we need sleep'.

THE COSMOS, pride of New York and the North American Soccer League, are in danger of being overworked through playing too many matches.

Cosmos recently played five hard games in 11 days and that's the sort of programme to take the edge off even the fittest and best of teams.

They played Hamburg on a Wednesday, Team America on Friday, Toronto on Sunday, Chicago on Wednesday and Montreal on the Saturday.

With such a heavy

prise 2-1 victory over Cosmos in the opening game of the present season, emphasising that the men from Toronto are a jinx team for Cosmos.

Blizzard were the only team to inflict a home defeat on Cosmos last season.

After losing 2-1 in a shoot-out to Team Ameri-

ca, Franz Beckenbauer, the Cosmos star performer, said: "We're tired and need sleep. I think I'll sleep at least 14 hours."

Beckenbauer, by the way, was guilty of an "own goal" in the loss to Team America, a side on which the USA's future World Cup hopes are pinned.

schedule, it's not surprising that Cosmos have surrendered top spot in the Eastern Division of the NASL to Toronto Blizzard.

The Blizzard had a sur-



The agony of German Soccer fans is only surpassed by the ecstasy of the photographer who was awarded the first prize for this picture by a German sports magazine who called it the picture of the year.

DIETER — NOT YOUR AVERAGE PLAYER

EUROPEAN champions, Hamburg SV, have signed the most unlikely player — to replace skipper Horst Hrubesch, now with Standard Liege in Belgium.

The new player's name is Dieter Schatzschneider. He smokes, drinks, hates training and claims he cannot head the ball!

Dieter (25) has never played in the German first division but he's scored plenty of goals in the second division. Last season, he scored 31 goals for Fortuna Cologne and the previous year, he grabbed 34 for Hanover.

Before every match, Schatzschneider consumes enormous ham sandwiches and drinks Coca-Cola. He has a big frame to fill, being 6ft 1in tall and weighing in at 14 stone.

Hamburg had to pay Fortuna \$500,000 to sign Dieter and they're keeping their fingers crossed he can get goals in the top division as regularly as he did in the lower division.



Hrubesch (above): in comes Dieter

GREEKS BANNED FROM OLYMPIC STADIUM

THE new Olympic Stadium in Athens, built for last year's European Athletics Championships, is now "out of bounds" to local Soccer teams.

The Greek Cup Final was played there last week between AEK Athens and PAOK

Salonika, with AEK winning 2-0.

At the match, 50 spectators were arrested for

fighting and 20 had to be admitted to hospital.

"This stadium will never again be used for

football matches between Greek teams," said Kimon Koulouris, Greece's Sports Minister.

Gate receipts due to AEK and PAOK have been withheld because some could be needed to pay for damage at the ground.

Thomas Mavros and Vangelis Vlachos scored the match-winning goals for AEK who will now play in next season's European Cup Winners Cup.

Barcelona will also play in the Cup Winners' Cup as Spain's representatives.

They beat Real Madrid 2-1 in the second leg of the Spanish Cup Final in Barcelona. The first leg in Madrid was drawn 2-2 so Barcelona qualified on an aggregate score of 4-3.

Scorers for Barcelona in the second leg — Diego Maradona and Jose Alecano. For Real, Carlos Santillana scored a consolation goal late in the match.



TURFED, BUT IDOLISED!

ITALIAN Idol Roberto Bettega (pictured right) is the latest import to the North American Soccer League to complain about the artificial turf used by most clubs.

Bettega missed two games for Toronto Blizzard through injury — and blamed on the playing surfaces. On the credit side, his presence has lifted Toronto's gate taking.

VILLA WANT THE CASH

REAL Madrid have received a bill from Aston Villa for \$15,000 but they're unlikely to pay up. The Spanish glamour club were to play Villa in a Testimonial match in

Madrid in May but it was called off.

Real Madrid pulled out of the deal after they were beaten in the European Cup by Aberdeen.

'ROYAL BOX TATTY!'

WEMBLEY Stadium, scene of many memorable Cup Finals, is the venue for the \$2,000,000 challenge battle between U.S. football teams St Louis Cardinals and Minnesota Vikings on August 6. The Cardinals' boss Billy Bidwell complained that the royal box was a bit tatty but was told it had been occupied, without complaints, by the Queen and the Pope!

A FINE THING TO DO!

SCOTTISH international winger John Robertson is now with Derby County and he's unhappy about



having to pay a fine of £3,000 to his former club, Nottingham Forest.

The fine was imposed when Robertson refused to go on a tour of Canada with Forest. Robertson appealed — but lost his appeal.



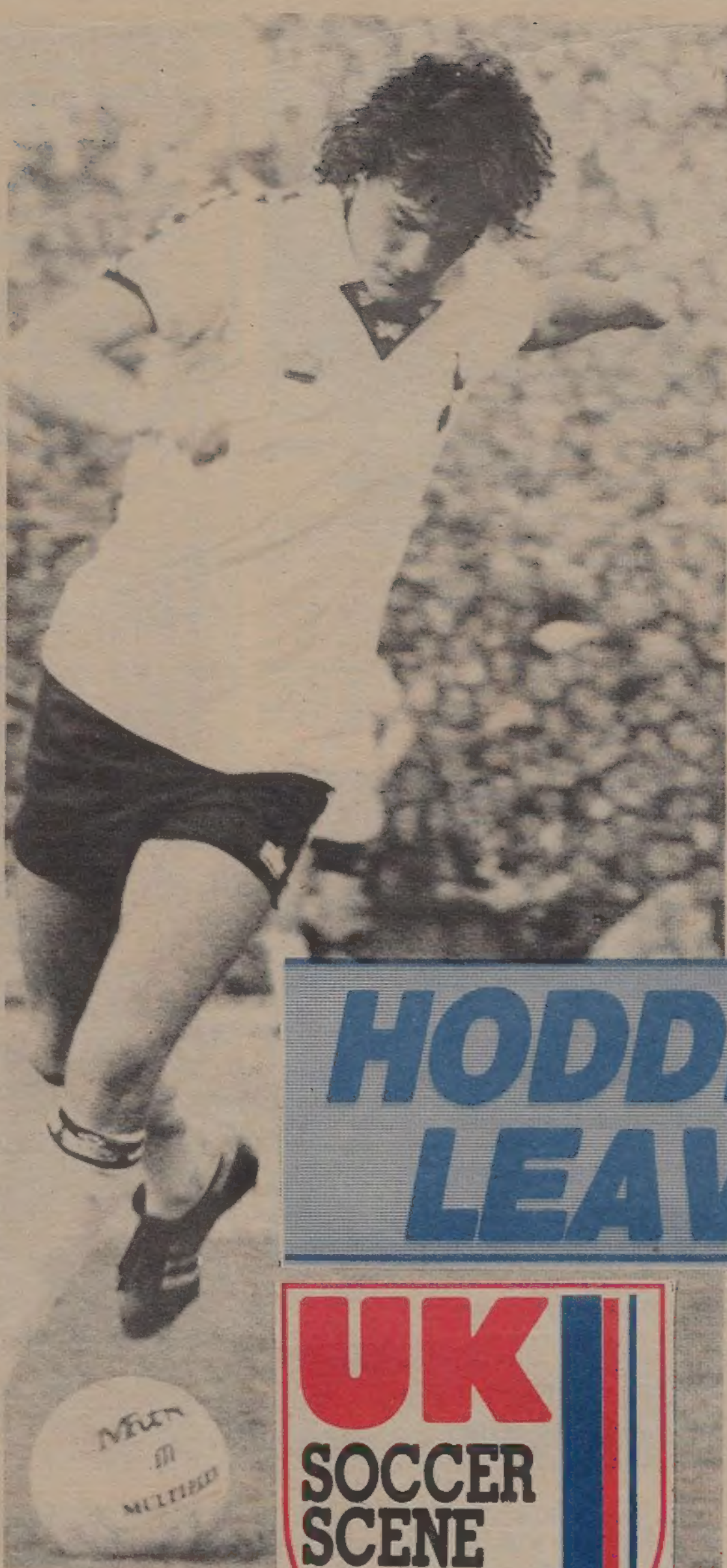
NORMAN Hunter, who used to be a tough-tackling Leeds United and England wing-half, could replace Jackie Charlton as team manager at Sheffield Wednesday. Hunter is manager of nearby Barnsley.



BLACKPOOL, who faced the humiliation of applying for re-election to the fourth division, have applied to their local Council for an interest-free loan of \$75,000.

The Council turned down the application.

Glen Hoddle



UK SOCCER SCENE

TWO FOR TRANSFER

MEL Eves, leading goalscorer in Wolves promotion-winning side, has been put on the transfer list along with midfielder Peter Daniel.

The pair were handed a "final offer" for next season but told Wolves they wanted more money.

Wolves, meanwhile, have signed England Youth team captain Mike Bennett on a free transfer from Bolton Wanderers.



DAVE Shearer was Middlesbrough's top goalscorer last season but he was given a free transfer and will play for Grimsby Town next season.



SUNDERLAND have been told they can sign Nottingham Forest's Mark Procter who was on loan to the Roker Park club last season.

NICHOLAS MUST SCORE — OR ELSE!

SOME of the details about Charlie Nicholas' big money move from Celtic to Arsenal are now coming out.

Nicholas, who admits he is still learning the game, will be paid more than \$3,000 a week by Arsenal.

Daily Express columnist Alan Thompson writes: "Arsenal have done Soccer a disservice. I am not sure they have done Nicholas any favours either."

One thing is certain...if the Gunners fail to fire in the coming season, the unfortunate, though highly-paid, Charlie Nicholas will cop a terrible roasting from High-bury fans.



BOURNEMOUTH'S major shareholder and chairman Harold Walker has sold his club shares to an anonymous, but wealthy, businessman who has accepted Bournemouth's debts of \$500,000.



Charlie Nicholas



FRANK Worthington, Sunderland's much-travelled forward, is tipped to join Southampton.

Kilmarnock defender Ken Armstrong is joining Southampton for a fee of \$100,000.

HANDS OFF OUR CLUB

OXFORD chairman, publisher Robert Maxwell, has made a new attempt to gain control of the Reading club — offering \$7.50 per share to Reading's shareholders.

Reading director Roy Tranter has now asked the Football League to "step in and put a stop to Mr Maxwell's antics."



LEICESTER City will pay \$150,000 to Barnsley for midfielder Ian Banks.

HODDLE SET TO LEAVE SPURS

TOTTENHAM Hotspur are fighting desperately to keep midfield genius Glenn Hoddle whose contract expires on July 31.

It looks like a losing battle for Spurs because Hoddle has his eyes set on picking up big money on the Continent.

He could be a very wealthy man by signing for an English club because both Arsenal and QPR are ready to go to the

limit to sign him.

Spurs believe they can outbid any English club but Hoddle is quoted as saying: "I would like to play abroad."

Douglas Alexiou, Spurs chairman, said: "We want to keep Glenn of course but we also know his de-

sire is to join a foreign club."

England manager Bobby Robson is watching developments anxiously, knowing there could be plenty of problems getting Hoddle's release from a European team for international matches.

BEGGORA, IT'S PADDY O'PAISLEY!

BOB Paisley will not be allowed to rest in peace after retiring from the demanding job of Liverpool manager.

The F.A. of Ireland has asked Paisley to take over as Soccer supremo of its international side.

And why not? Isn't Liverpool the capital of Ireland?

FORGOTTEN HERO — THAT'S GERRY

GERRY Armstrong was one of the few World Cup heroes among the British teams in the World Cup in Spain last year.

Playing for Northern Ireland, he turned in a succession of excellent performance against the greatest defences in the world.

But Gerry came down to earth when he returned to his club Watford. "I broke my leg in two places and it kept me out of football for five months," he said. "The injury happened in a reserve team game and the rest of the season was a nightmare."

Armstrong has now asked for a transfer although he still has a year to run on his contract.

He wants regular first team football and he is not guaranteed to get it with Watford.

Armstrong claims he is completely fit again after

playing for Ireland in the Home International series and travelling to China with the Watford team.

Brighton, Chelsea and Birmingham City are all interested in buying the man who hit the World Cup headlines in Spain.

BIG BIDDING

THE big two of Merseyside, Everton and Liverpool, are both bidding for the outstanding Burnley teenager Trevor Steven.

Everton were first to make an offer but it wasn't big enough to tempt Burnley.

John Bond, new boss of Burnley, hopes to collect around \$500,000 for Steven.



WILL WILKINS WALK ?

RUMOURS still persist that Ray Wilkins will be leaving Manchester United even though few UK clubs would be able to pay the huge money needed to lure him from Old Trafford.

Italian giants, A.S.Roma, are not deterred, though. They have registered Wilkins with the Italian League to comply with a League rule that all clubs must name players they might buy.

Roma also told the League they wanted Glenn Hoddle and Brazil's skipper Socrates.